

# Colorado

## Geographic Alliance

GET INVOLVED



### TAKE A LOOK!

**MyWonderfulWorld.org**  
National Geographic led PR Campaign. We are looking for Districts who would like to participate. Please contact COGA for more information.

### Teaching Geography is Fundamental Act

**S.1376.IS & HR.5519.IHA** bill to improve and expand geographic literacy among kindergarten through grade 12 students in the United States by improving professional development programs for kindergarten through grade 12 teachers offered through institutions of higher education.

Please write Senator Salazar, Senator Allard, and your Congressional Representative.

<http://www.senate.gov>  
<http://www.leg.state.co.us>  
<http://www.house.gov/writerep>

COGA is planning to arrange a meeting with members of the education committees of the Colorado State House and Senate. If you would like to help in the effort of improving teaching geography in schools, please contact COGA:

Jimmy Dunn: 970-351-2834  
Phil Klein: 970-351-2372



Colorado Geographic Alliance  
University of Northern Colorado  
970-351-2743  
<http://geography.unco.edu/coga>  
[coga@unco.edu](mailto:coga@unco.edu)

## What's New: 2006-07

### PRO GEOGRAPHER PROGRAM:

The first course is currently in session (Population and Cultural Geography) through UNC. Please watch our website for more details on upcoming courses.

### GRANT PROGRAMS:

This year we will be offering new Grant Programs. The RFPs will be available on our website in November. Last year we funded 3 small grants and 3 large grants.

**District Grants:** COGA plans to award 3 large grants of approximately \$15,000 each. These grants are significant efforts to effect district-wide improvements in geography. Districts are expected to provide in-kind support,

administrative help, and work with COGA's evaluation specialist.

**Travel and Materials Grants:** We will fund 4-6 teachers with up to \$500 each to travel to national meetings and/or develop instructional materials that can be disseminated on the COGA website.

**Workshop Grants:** We will be soliciting proposals to fund 2-3 short, teacher led workshops at up to \$5,000 each. We believe that effective workshops have been a valuable component of COGA's past work and we want to continue to support such high-impact workshops.

## 2005-06 Grants Recipients

### SMALL GRANTS

**Montclair Elementary School:** Covering Colorado From Corner to Corner. Support for creating playground maps of Colorado to teach children tactile and kinesthetic understanding of maps.

**CalWood Environmental Education Center:** Providing Geography Content, Inquiry, and GeoTechnologies to Enhance Student learning and Teacher Professional Development. COGA funded 8 Colorado teachers to be trained in geography content, inquiry, field data collection and analysis, and spatial analysis using GIS and

CPS tools and methods through the GeoTech Colorado 2006 Institute.

**Fran Cohen, Cherry Creek School District:** A Virtual Trip to Japan. Lesson plans for elementary educators based on her recent travels with CTEA will be developed and shared on COGA's website.

### LARGE GRANTS

**Denver Public Schools:** Designing a Student Aligned World Geography Curriculum. Project creates intensive professional training for secondary World Geography teachers in the Denver Public

Schools.

**Jeffco Schools:** Strengthening K-2 achievement through Developing Geographically Sound Content Knowledge in Primary Teachers. The intended outcome is increased learning and achievement of students in geography.

**CalWood Environmental Education Center:** Measuring the Effects of GIS on Student Learning at Denver Public Schools and Cherry Creek School District.